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Certain laws for Indian Territory.

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CERTAIN LAWS FOR INDIAN TERRITORY.

FEBRUARY 3, 1899.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CURTIS, of Kansas, from the Committee on Indian Affairs,
submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 11713.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 11713) to put in force in the Indian Territory certain provisions of the laws of Arkansas relating to corporations, and to make said provisions applicable to said Territory, have had the same under consideration and submit the following favorable report:

Under existing laws there is no provision for the formation of private corporations for business purposes in the Indian Territory. There are a large number of thriving towns in the Territory, and the enterprising citizens desire the authority given by this act, and your committee is of the opinion that the passage of this bill will be of great benefit to the people of that Territory.

The provisions of the Arkansas laws made applicable to the Territory authorize the formation of corporations for manufacturing and other lawful business, navigation companies, institutions of learning, bureaus of immigration, corporations for benevolent purposes, and fair associations. The following is a copy of a letter from three of the United States judges of the Indian Territory recommending the passage of the bill:

UNITED STATES COURT IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY,
South McAlester, Ind. T., January 10, 1899.

SIR: The undersigned respectfully suggest that there is great necessity in the Indian Territory for a law authorizing the formation of private corporations for business purposes. We understand that a bill has been formulated for this purpose, which will be forwarded to you for introduction, with the request that you use your influence for its passage.

The interests of the Territory at this time are such that a general incorporation act for business purposes would be of greatest benefit to the people. We respectfully urge upon Congress the importance of passing a measure of this kind at the earliest time practicable.

We are, very respectfully,

WM. M. SPRINGER.
WM. H. H. CLAYTON.
HOSEA TOWNSEND.

Hon. CHARLES CURTIS,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

Your committee therefore recommend the passage of the bill without amendments.